

# Kentucky's State Summit on Citizen Diplomacy

*Final Report*

*April 5, 2006*

## I. Summit Participants/Attendees

### *A. Participating KCTCS Sites*

1. Ashland
2. Bluegrass
3. Bowling Green
4. Elizabethtown
5. Henderson
6. Hopkinsville
7. Jefferson
8. Madisonville
9. Morehead
10. Owensboro
11. Somerset

### *B. KCTCS Sites Submitting Reports*

1. Bluegrass
2. Bowling Green
3. Elizabethtown
4. Henderson
5. Jefferson
6. Madisonville
7. Morehead
8. Owensboro

### *C. Ethnic Breakdown*

1. Caucasian – 249
2. Hispanic – 9
3. Native American – 0
4. Asian – 11
5. Arab – 3
6. African American – 13
7. Other – 20

### *D. Age Breakdown*

1. 17 and younger – 0
2. 18 to 29 – 28
3. 30 to 50 – 118
4. 51 to 64 – 117
5. 65 and older – 42

### *E. Total Participants*

1. 305

## II. Summit Findings/Action Plans

### *A. Top five action ideas state/communities can take to increase awareness, interest, and visibility of Citizen Diplomacy*

1. Establish an International and Cultural Affairs office to serve as a one-stop clearinghouse for all international activity within the state of Kentucky in order to increase global awareness
2. Engage the international business community statewide to educate the media about the importance of covering international activities in Kentucky
3. Develop a statewide marketing plan to identify and engage new audiences in international activities
4. Establish a mandatory statewide global education requirement that incorporates elements such as language, culture, global awareness, and study abroad programs beginning at the primary level and continuing through post-secondary
5. Develop a long-term viable international economic development plan for the Commonwealth of Kentucky

*B. Top five action ideas nation/national government can take to increase the awareness, interest, and visibility of Citizen Diplomacy*

1. Increase federal administrative monetary support to local communities engaged in activities to promote citizen diplomacy
2. Provide federal tax and other non-monetary incentives to support international citizen diplomacy initiatives at the grassroots level
3. Expand the existing level of federal funding to globalize the education curriculum at all levels from primary through post-secondary and provide professional development funding and incentives for teachers
4. Negotiate and resolve student work-visa issues to enable study abroad, professional development, and cross-cultural skills in a global economy
5. Provide resources to enhance international tourism and export activity to benefit the states and local communities

*C. How will our state/communities move forward in expanding local and regional networks and partnerships that encourage and promote international exchange and development?*

Continue state meetings and/or trade shows with international partners in order to implement the summits recommendations; also, explore new ideas and help promote/facilitate communication about existing programs/activities

*D. What steps can our state/communities take to increase participation from diverse groups and organizations in the Citizen Diplomacy movement?*

Develop a statewide marketing plan to unify international communities/organizations/programs in order to expand international activities and create awareness and appreciation of all cultures

*E. How can our state/communities work to identify sources of both public and private funding to support and expand the Citizen Diplomacy movement?*

Educate our policy-makers on international activities so that they will support funding for Citizen Diplomacy programs; encourage the business community to make funds available to support Citizen Diplomacy activities

*F. Challenges to Citizen Diplomacy in our state/communities*

1. Limited financial resources
2. Lack of knowledge/awareness, especially in terms of language skills, citizen diplomacy opportunities, and foreign cultures
3. Insufficient marketing of international programs/activities